



General Assembly

February Session, 2020

**Raised Bill No. 275**

LCO No. 1889



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT REQUIRING FAMILY NOTIFICATIONS IN STATE ESTATE RECOVERIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 4a-16 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

3 When any person supported or cared for by the state (1) under a  
4 program of public assistance, [or] (2) in an institution maintained by the  
5 Department of Developmental Services or Department of Mental Health  
6 and Addiction Services, [or] (3) when an inmate of the Department of  
7 Correction, or [when any] (4) as a child committed to the Commissioner  
8 of Social Services or Commissioner of Children and Families dies  
9 leaving only personal estate, including personal assets owing and due  
10 the estate after death, not exceeding the aggregate value, as described in  
11 section 45a-273, the Commissioner of Administrative Services or the  
12 commissioner's authorized representative shall [, upon filing] make a  
13 reasonable attempt to notify any such person's immediate family, as  
14 defined in section 8-169aa, of such person's death and the intent of the  
15 state to file a claim against the estate not less than thirty days after such

16 notification for the cost of care or assistance rendered to the decedent.  
17 The commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative  
18 shall file with the probate court having jurisdiction of such estate a  
19 certificate that the total estate is under the aggregate value, as described  
20 in section 45a-273, and the claim of the state, together with the expense  
21 of last illness not exceeding three hundred seventy-five dollars and  
22 funeral and burial expenses in accordance with section 17b-84 or 17b-  
23 131, equals or exceeds the amount of such estate. ~~], be issued a certificate~~  
24 ~~by said court that]~~ The court shall issue a certificate that the  
25 commissioner is the legal representative of such estate only for the  
26 following purpose. The commissioner shall have authority to claim such  
27 estate, the commissioner's receipt for the same to be a valid discharge of  
28 the liability of any person turning over the same, and to settle the same  
29 by payment of the expense of last illness not exceeding three hundred  
30 seventy-five dollars, expense of funeral and burial in accordance with  
31 section 17b-84 or 17b-131 and the remainder as partial or full  
32 reimbursement of the claim of the state for the cost of care or assistance  
33 rendered to the decedent. The commissioner shall file with said probate  
34 court a statement of the settlement of such estate as herein provided.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2020	4a-16

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the state to make efforts to notify immediate family members before taking over the administration of a decedent's estate for payment of state assistance or care provided to the decedent.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*